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REVIEW

"ILLUSTRATION OF THE PTERIDOPHYTES OF JAPAN, VOLUME I," by Satoru Kurata and Toshiyuki Nakaike. University of Tokyo Press. 628pp. 1979. Yen 50,000.—This book represents the first volume of a series of works devoted to illustrating and mapping the more than 600 species of Japanese (including the Ryu-Kyu and Bonin Islands) pteridophytes. This volume treats 100 species from a variety of families and includes large segments, though regrettably not all, of many genera such as *Dryopteris*, *Polystichum*, and *Pteris*. The treatment of individual species includes photographs depicting habit, line drawings of whole plants as well as details of sori, venation, cuticle, scales, and rhizome anatomy, a short description of the species, and an enumeration of specimens examined with a full page grid-map of Japan showing their location. The entire volume is beautifully produced with excellent paper and binding, something of which more American publishers ought to be envious.

Although the descriptive material is entirely in Japanese (Latin names are included), the illustrations and detailed distributions will be quite useful to American botanists, not only pteridologists, but phytogeographers and ecologists as well. It is hard to ignore, for instance, the close resemblance of our *Dryopteris ludoviciana* with *D. tokyoensis* after examining the photograph and illustration of the latter. Although it is unlikely that many individuals will be able to purchase this book, they should certainly encourage their institutional libraries to do so.—*R. Cranfill, Department of Botany, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.*